

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GABORO 01456 191104Z
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 IO-14 AID-05 /035 W
-----037749 191108Z /16

P 190943Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2262
INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

UNCLAS GABORONE 1456

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: SREF, BC
SUBJECT: SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN AMONG REFUGEES

REF: STATE 121983

1. UNHCR DEALING WITH THE 8,000 RHODESIAN REFUGEES IN FRANCISTOWN AND SELIB-PIKWE CAMPS AS OF MAY 1 (AS OF MAY 18 FIGURE HAS CLIMBED TO 9,500): 50 PERCENT ILLITERATE, 50 PERCENT BASICALLY YOUNG MEN , 10 PERCENT WITH SOME SORT OF BASIC VOCATIONAL SKILL TO INCLUDE A POSSIBLE SECONDARY EDUCATION, 40 PERCENT WITH EQUIVALENT OF EDUCATION RANGING BETWEEN GRADE 2 AND GRADE 6, 50 PERCENT WOMEN AND CHILDREN UNDER 16 YEARS, 85 PERCENT RURAL AND 15 PERCENT URBAN.

2. ASSUMING THAT PERCENTAGES HAVE NOT CHANGED CONSIDERABLY, AND WE DO NOT BELIEVE THEY HAVE, EMBASSY WOULD ESTIMATE PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL AGE POPULATION AMONG RHODESIAN REFUGEES AT SLIGHTLY MORE THAN HALF THE NUMBER.

3. CONCERNING SOUTH AFRICAN REFUGEES, CLUSTERED MAINLY ABOUT THE GABORONE AREA, WE ESTIMATE THAT APPROXIMATELY SEVENTY PERCENT HAVE AMBITIONS OF SOMEDAY COMPLETING THEIR SECONDARY EDUCATION, THIS, DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF THEM ARE IN THEIR EARLY TWENTIES AND NOT OF CONVENTIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOL AGE BY AMERICAN STANDARDS. NUMBER OF PRIMARY SCHOOL
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AGE SOUTH AFRICAN REFUGEES IS EXTREMELY SMALL IF NOT INSIGNIFICANT.
NORLAND

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NNN

Message Attributes

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